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## The Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 36 Sun 22nd - Sat 28th November 2020  
Registered Charity 1128058

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### **Your Sunday Service Link (10.30 am):**

Click on the Loving, Growing sharing Image above from Sunday 10am or on

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89481452808>

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It is with sadness that I write to let everyone know that Carol Turner went peacefully to be with God earlier this week. We will greatly miss Carol who has been so much a part of the body here at St. John's. As a woman of faith, Carol served in so many ways in the church and community, including Junior Church leadership here and in serving as a governor at St. Andrew's School for

many years. I ask you to especially hold Richard, Becky, Vicky, Megan and Tom in your prayers at this time.

In thinking about **Christian hope** I love the verse, “**We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure**” (Hebrews 6:19). The verse refers to the Christian hope which is very different from the word ‘hope’ as used in common language today.

In everyday English language today someone might think or say, “I’m not sure what is going to happen, but I *hope* it happens.” This is a form of wishful thinking.

Christian hope is different to this wishful thinking in that there is a great confidence that something coming up in the future will happen. That confidence is a firm faith based on the promises of God. There is a great hope (ie, Christian hope, a confidence) in those of the Christian faith that they personally have an eternal home in heaven through the death and resurrection of Christ. We can be firm and secure in the promises of God. We can be firm and secure that through Christ’s sacrifice through faith we have defeated sin and death. We can be firm and secure that Father God has a place for us in His heavenly kingdom where there will be no more pain and suffering.

Along with these thoughts on the theme of hope, there are some great words in the new hymn “**Christ Our Hope in Life and Death**”, which came out this year. It was co-authored by authors of “In Christ Alone”. To listen to the song from the net and see the lyrics [click here](#).

Here are some of the words:

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone  
What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong

Who holds our days within His hand? What comes, apart from His command?  
And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand

*O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal  
O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess  
Christ our hope in life and death*

Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial?  
Who sends the waves that bring us night Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?

Unto the grave, what will we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"  
And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with Him

There we will rise to meet the Lord Then sin and death will be destroyed  
And we will feast in endless joy When Christ is ours forevermore

Last Sunday it was lovely to be joined in our ‘Zoom’ Sunday service by three who came in directly by phone for the first time: Beryl Burrows and Roger & Sue Mutters. They were able to join us for the first time online by phoning into Zoom from their landlines. It was wonderful for them to be a part of us again. **For those of you with a phone, but no internet access, do join us for worship in the same way.** It has now been tried and tested! If you know of others who haven’t got the internet please do let them know they can easily join us in this way. **See ‘Notices’ section for instructions.**

Blessings to you and enjoy reading and praying on!  
**Alan**

### **Prayers**

### The Homeless

Pray for the homeless. Pray for all charities involved in helping the homeless as they gear up to serving those without homes during the coming winter months. Help those who govern us nationally and locally take notice of this increasing problem and work to provide solutions and support so that no-one needs to sleep on our streets.

### New Priest Andy Thompson

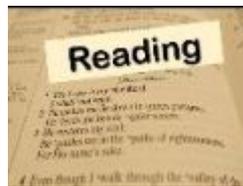
Pray for the new minister for St. Margaret's Church, Andy Thompson, who started there this week.

### Vietnam

Women are often left to oversee house churches when their pastor husbands are imprisoned. The Priscilla training programme provides discipleship training for pastors' wives. Pray that those who attend will be equipped to strengthen those under their care.

### Eritrea

Pray for the many women whose husbands are in prison for their faith. Ask Father God to meet all their practical and spiritual needs so they can provide for their families.



### Acts 27: 27-44

27 On the fourteenth night we were still being driven across the Adriatic Sea, when about midnight the sailors sensed they were approaching land. 28 They took soundings and found that the water was a hundred and twenty feet deep. A short time later they took soundings again and found it was ninety feet deep. 29 Fearing that we would be dashed against the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for daylight.

30 In an attempt to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. 31 Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved." 32 So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it drift away. 33 Just before dawn Paul urged them all to eat. "For the last fourteen days," he said, "you have been in constant suspense and have gone without food—you haven't eaten anything.

34 Now I urge you to take some food. You need it to survive. Not one of you will lose a single hair from his head." 35 After he said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all. Then he broke it and began to eat. 36 They were all encouraged and ate some food themselves. 37 Altogether there were 276 of us on board. 38 When they had eaten as much as they wanted, they lightened the ship by throwing the grain into the sea.

39 When daylight came, they did not recognize the land, but they saw a bay with a sandy beach, where they decided to run the ship aground if they could. 40 Cutting loose the anchors, they left them in the sea and at the same time untied the ropes that held the rudders. Then they hoisted the foresail to the wind and made for the beach. 41 But the ship struck a sandbar and ran aground. The bow stuck fast and would not move, and the stern was broken to pieces by the pounding of the surf. 42 The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping.

43 But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. 44 The rest were to get there on planks or on other pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land safely.

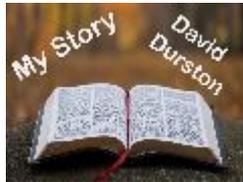


### National Tree Week

Saturday 28th November to December 6th is National Tree Week.

The main focus of the week is to plant more trees in schools and communities. It started in 1973 as a response to the Dutch Elm disease – Plant a tree in '73 and the Tree Council was born. Pray for lots of trees to be planted in the right places, despite the Covid19 restrictions, and for a new generation of tree enthusiasts to be created. Trees are our strongest warriors in the battle against climate change. locking up carbon, fighting flood and cooling our cities. To reach the Governments 2050 carbon net zero target the UK needs more trees.

The Woodland Trust has a campaign to help reach the target, planting 50 million more trees over the next five years. We can support their campaign. We could also encourage the council or local groups to grow more trees or if we have space in our gardens we could grow our own tree to help our planet earth.



### Life is full of surprises, I never saw that coming.

One of my hobbies is tracing the Family Tree. I knew that my Durston ancestors came from Catcott which is a village on the Somerset Levels (my Grandfather came up to London in 1890's to make Officer's Riding Boots) and were mainly Peat Diggers and Agricultural workers). My Grandmother came from Essex although she had Irish ancestry On my Mother's side( Archer) my Grandfather came from Northumberland/ Durham to London as a Carpenter and my Grandmother came from Bishops Stortford (Essex again) as a Maid.

One of my 75th Birthday presents was a Heritage Genes testing kit. Imagine my surprise when I received the test results:--

54.4 % English.

31.7 % Scandinavian

4.5 % Finnish

1.9 % Iberian

1.3 % Italian

5.3 % North African

0.9 % Nigerian \_\_\_\_\_

100.0 % David Durston !!

An excerpt from my favourite **Psalm :- Psalm 139 Verses 13 - 16. NEW LIVING TRANSLATION version .**

*You made all the delicate inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb.*

*Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvellous - how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.*

*You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book.*

*Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.*

So you can imagine my surprise to find my Nigerian connection but I guess that was a few thousand years ago. *David Durston.*



Team Durston



### Local Shopping

Shopping parades are familiar sight in the suburbs of London, consisting of one or more continuous rows of between five and 40 shops, with living accommodation above. In the parish of St John's we have a total of 10 shopping parades: one on Violet Avenue, Pield Heath Road and Sutton Court Road and 7 on the Uxbridge Road, namely: New Broadway, Whiteley's, Marlborough, Westbourne, Hillingdon, Crescent and the one opposite St John's. (more of that later).

The term 'shopping parade' did not enter general use until the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Inter-war period (1918-1939) is seen as the heyday of parades, due to the volume and quality of those built during the era. Most of the Hillingdon parades were built in the 1930's and the New Broadway parade helpfully has the year it was built (1932) carved into the wall. (see photo below).

Our shopping habits have changed enormously over the decades with a huge amount of shopping being done online. Meanwhile, the occupants of existing parades have shifted from traditional retailers, such as butchers, bakers and greengrocers, in favour of service industries, such as tattoo parlours, tanning shops and hairdressers.

At the junction of Lees Road and Uxbridge Road, Whiteley's the West London department store used to own a nursery growing plants and flowers which were sold in the store. The shopping parade built on that land is named Whiteley's Parade.

The parade opposite St John's was built in 1930's when the Uxbridge Road was widened and was built in the mock tudor style. The name of this parade does not appear anywhere and the only clue to it's name is in the name of the laundrette, ie Manor Launderama. Thanks to Ken Pearce's book "Hillingdon Village" we know that the parade was called Manor Parade after the Manor House which stood nearby. When Christine Turner moved to Hillingdon in 1958 the type of shop was very different to what we have now and she remembers them all. Here is the list of shops and some of the proprietors.

From east to west: Grocer, Greengrocer- Mrs Healing, Post Office, Café, Ceres Bakery, Roberts the Grocer, Stephens the Butcher, Dressmaker, hairdresser, sweet shop, and finally where Dulux is now, a hardware shop selling china, paint etc.

Does anyone else have memories of local shops?

*Christine Bartlett.*



New Broadway Parade.



Does anyone know what WJC stands for?



The Hillingdon Foodbank face challenging times due to the coronavirus pandemic.

They support the multi national community in Hillingdon of all creeds and aim to make the Christmas holiday more special at the darkest time of the year with the added problems that everyone is now facing.

They also make up 100+ Christmas boxes for people who do not qualify for Foodbank support, but are in need.

To help you understand, for this years Harvest festival 11 schools kindly donated although the foodbank usually experience help from 36+ schools.

**The Foodbank is in need of:**

**Tinned Products only:** Meat(all types), Fish, Vegetables, Fruit and Puddings.

**Jars:** Jam, Pasta Sauces, Curries and other sauces.

**500g-1kg Bags of:** Granulated Sugar, Pasta, Rice and noodles.

**Packets of:** Potato Mash, Biscuits, Christmas cakes, Sweets, Crisps, Heathy Bars and snacks.

**Bottles/Cartons of:** Long life Milk, Fruit Juice and squash.

**Children's Toys** Pre wrapped with a label stating what age and whether the gift is for a boy or a girl.

**You can drop your donations to:**

Participating local Supermarkets:

1. Sainsburys York Road Uxbridge UB8 1QW
2. Sainsburys Lombardy Retail Park Coldharbour Lane Hayes. UB3 3EX.
3. Sainsburys Long Dr, South Ruislip, Ruislip HA4 0HQ.
4. Tesco Bulls Bridge Industrial Estate Hayes UB25LN
5. Tesco Extra Glencoe Rd, Hayes UB4 9SQ
6. Waitrose 52 Green Ln, Northwood HA6 2XB

**Current Participating Churches with donation boxes.**

St Martin's Church Eastcote Rd, Ruislip HA4 8DG. Monday to Sunday 09-00 to 16-00 hrs

**Or Alternatively**

Delivery to Hillingdon Foodbank Warehouse

Foodbank Warehouse Address:

30 Oxford Road

UB9 4DQ.

**Thank you from the Hillingdon Foodbank Team.**



Hello, I'm Jon, I both volunteer and work for The Children's Society. I wanted to give an update how COVID-19 has impacted The Children's Society.

During the past six months, The Children's Society has been busy recreating our services, to provide them in a digital world.

We've had to ship equipment to young people, like laptops and smart phones to ensure the young people that didn't have them had a way to connect with our project workers.

I wanted to share my personal experience in my volunteer role for The Children's Society and how lockdown has impacted this.

I'm a volunteer befriender in the Refugee and Migrant team, which works with young people who have often fled war torn countries, and are separated from their families.

They often have no support networks here and limited opportunities to make friends.

I meet face to face with a young person, to do an activity that we've chosen together, such as visiting a famous London landmark or museum, or playing games or sports.

This helps the young person get familiar with their new city. I personally was overwhelmed with my first visit to London as teenager, not knowing if you tap in or out of buses. Can you imagine how it would be for a young person from another country?

These activities would help them get an understanding of British Culture, improve their English and build their confidence.

Well since the lockdown, this has stopped... We've replaced these with weekly catch up calls, which were quite tricky, as it's more difficult to communicate on the phone across a language barrier.

Fortunately technology is a big helper, we've recreated things we were doing before by taking online tours of museums or zoos – something we can do at the same time.

I do hope I've give you an idea of how we've recreated our services during lockdown. We couldn't do so without the support from parishes like St Johns. **THANK YOU**

Despite the challenges we continue to walk towards the young people that society crosses the road to avoid. These young people have something within them, that something is hope.

We counsel, support and campaign for the young people whose hopes and happiness are the most threatened by abuse, exploitation and neglect. We couldn't do that without the help of our supporters.

Lastly some headline figures, in the past year we worked with 11,500 children giving them specialist support on whatever issue they had. 4.4 million young people have benefited from changes in law that we fought for - including a lift in the benefits freeze. Thank you once again.

**Find out more about the Children's Society here:** <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/about-us>

**Support the Children's society by visiting the Christmas card shop**

**here:** <https://www.charitycardshop.com/thechildrenssociety>

St John's will again be supporting this fantastic charity this year watch this space to hear about our Christingle Services.

### **The Children's Society Home Coin Boxes.**

Please hang on to your collecting boxes for the time being. The Children's Society do not want us to be placed at unnecessary risk by handling boxes, counting coins and taking trips to the bank. If you are a box holder, you will be contacted when we are able to collect your box. *Christine Bartlett*



### **Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child**

Thank you to everyone who has once again supported this amazing charity St John's have now sent 29 shoeboxes which is amazing.

There is still time to pack a shoebox as the national collection week has been extended to the 5th December. The last day is 14th December this can be done online by giving a donation of £20 and Samaritans Purse will pack a shoebox for you, just click on this link for more information <https://shoebonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/> Nikki Bell

## NOTICES

### **How to join the Sunday service from your landline/mobile (without Internet)**

- Dial **020 3481 5237** or **020 3051 2874**.
- Enter meeting ID Code **894 8145 2808** then the # key
- You will be asked to enter your participants' ID. Ignore this, and just press # key
- There is no password. If you are asked for one, then just press the # key.

### **The Bible Society**

The Bible Society are collecting used postage stamps to raise funds. Please send stamps to Bible Society, Stamp Appeal, Post Room, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon SN5 7DG – thank you!  
Christine Bartlett

### **End of the week Joke**

If you must speed in your car, you may want to sing these as you drive:

- 45 mph—God Will Take Care of You
- 55 mph—Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
- 65 mph—Nearer My God to Thee
- 75 mph—Nearer, Still Nearer
- 85 mph—This World Is Not My Home
- 95 mph—Lord, I'm Coming Home
- 100 mph—Precious Memories

### **CHEQUES**

Payable to:  
Hillingdon Parochial Church Council  
St. John's Church  
Royal Lane  
Uxbridge  
UB8 3QP

### **STANDING ORDER**

Set up a Standing Order with your bank or building society using these details:  
Barclays Bank, 142 High St,  
Uxbridge, UB8 1JX  
Sort Code: 208916  
Account No: 20465615

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